AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. **(Currently Amended)** A method for the treatment of a tumor which comprises administering to a patient in need thereof an effective amount of active dendritic cells (DC) that are tumor-specific and secrete IL12, said ~~active~~ tumor-specific IL12 secreting DC being prepared by a process comprising:

(a) collecting DC or DC precursor cells from a suitable source to obtain a DC culture;

(b) loading the DC of said DC culture with a tumor specific antigen; and

(c) exposing said DC culture to a concentration of LPS and a concentration of IFN-γ effective to trigger the DC of said DC culture to secrete IL12 to thereby obtain said tumor specific and IL12 secreting DC wherein said exposure to LPS and IFN- γ occurs over a period of 1-10 hours.

2. **(Previously Presented)** The method according to claim 1, wherein said treatment is performed after bone marrow transplantation.

3. **(Previously Presented)** The method according to claim 1, wherein said tumor is an advanced malignancy.

4. **(Previously Presented)** The method according to claim 1, wherein said DC are collected from the patient having said tumor or from a bone marrow donor.

5. **(Previously Presented)** The method according to claim 1, wherein the DCs have been loaded with an antigen from a tumor cell from said patient having said tumor.

6. **(Previously Presented)** The method according to claim 5, wherein the DC are additionally charged with a tracer antigen.

7. **(Previously Presented)** The method according to claim 6, wherein said tracer antigen is keyhole limpet hemocyanine (KLH).

8. **(Previously Presented)** The method according to claim 7, wherein the DCs are additionally charged with an adjuvant, especially with tetanus toxoid.

9. **(Previously Presented)** The method according to claim 1, wherein the DC have been generated in vitro from peripheral blood mononuclear cells (PBMCs).

10. – 11. **(Cancelled)**

12. **(Withdrawn)** A method for triggering IL-12 release from dendritic cells (DCs) which comprises administering to a patient an effective amount of a combination of LPS, IFN-γ and a tumor antigen.

13. **(Withdrawn)** The method according to claim 12, wherein the DCs have been loaded with an antigen from a tumor cell from a patient having said tumor.

14. **(Cancelled)**

15. **(Withdrawn)** A method for for triggering IL-12 release from dendritic cells (DCs) which comprises exposing DCs to the kit of claim 14.

16. **(Withdrawn)** The method according to claim 15, wherein the DCs have been loaded with an antigen from a tumor cell from a patient having a tumor.

17. **(Cancelled)**

18. **(Currently Amended)** ~~The method of claim 17,~~ A method for the treatment of a tumor which comprises administering to a patient an effective amount of dendritic cells (DC) , wherein said active DC are prepared by a process comprising:

(a) collecting DC or DC precursor cells from a suitable source to obtain a DC culture;

(b) loading the DC of said DC culture with a tumor specific antigen; and

(c) exposing said DC culture to a concentration of LPS and a concentration of IFN-γ effective to trigger the DC of said DC culture to secrete IL12 and thereby obtain said active DC wherein said exposure to LPS and IFN- γ occurs over a period of 1-10 hours.

19. **(Previously Presented)** A method for the treatment of a tumor which comprises administering to a patient in need thereof an effective amount of active dendritic cells (DC) that are tumor-specific and secrete IL12, said ~~active~~ tumor-specific, IL12 secreting DC being prepared by a process consisting essentially of:

(a) collecting DC or DC precursor cells from a suitable source to obtain a DC culture;

(b) loading the DC of said DC culture with a tumor specific antigen; and

(c) exposing said DC culture to a concentration of LPS and a concentration of IFN-γ effective to trigger the DC of said DC culture to secrete IL12 to thereby obtain said tumor specific and IL12 secreting DC wherein said exposure to LPS and IFN- γ occurs over a period of 1-10 hours.

20. **(Cancelled)**

21. **(Currently Amended)** A method for the treatment of a tumor consisting essentially of administering to a patient in need thereof an effective amount of active dendritic cells (DC), ~~The method of claim 20~~, and wherein said active DC are prepared by a process consisting essentially of:

(a) collecting DC or DC precursor cells from a suitable source to obtain a DC culture;

(b) loading the DC of said DC culture with a tumor specific antigen; and

exposing said DC culture to a concentration of LPS and a concentration of IFN-γ effective to trigger the DC of said DC culture to secrete IL12 and thereby obtain said active DC wherein said exposure to LPS and IFN- γ occurs over a period of 1-10 hours.

22. (New) The method of claim 1 wherein said active DCs are administered or frozen after exposure to LPS and IFN-γ.

23. (New) The method of claim 1 wherein said active DCs are exposed to LPS and IFN- γ for a period of 2 hours.

24. (New) The method of claim 1 wherein said active DCs are exposed to LPS and IFN- γ for a period of 6 hours.

25. (New) The method of claim 1 wherein said active DCs are exposed to LPS and IFN- γ for a period of 2-10 hours.

26. (New) The method of claim 1 wherein said active DCs are exposed to LPS and IFN- γ for a period of 2-6 hours.